

1788, 1788, 1792, 1793. LOCAL OFFICE: justice, Worcester County, commissioned 1793. MILITARY SERVICE: captain, Worcester County, by 1785; when the militia was reorganized in 1794, Purnell was listed as having been appointed a captain of the Ninth Regiment, Worcester County. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: manumitted at least six slaves in his will, 1798. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY: assessed value £763.10.0, including 24 slaves, 1783. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: 750 acres in Worcester County (probably all inherited from his father). SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: acquired additional acreage that had originally belonged to his father and resurveyed it into a 1,381-acre tract in Worcester County, 1787; purchased 351 acres in Worcester County, 1792; sold at least 410 acres in Worcester County between 1791 and 1794. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: between January 29 and April 2, 1798, in Worcester County. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, \$5,839.55 (including 3 slaves of no value, 30 slaves valued, 25 oz. plate, other items of silver, and books); FB, estate overpaid \$1.00, exclusive of \$2.04 retained by the executor to satisfy certain accounts. LAND: approximately 1,936 acres in Worcester County, all of which along with his personal estate Purnell ordered his executors to sell to pay his debts and to support his children. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: By 1819, Purnell's executors were ordered by the Chancery Court to sell 137 acres of his real estate in Worcester County to pay his debts. His personal property had proved insufficient to discharge all his debts. IDENTIFICATION PROBLEMS. There were two men named William Purnell in Worcester County who could have served in the legislature from 1785–1788, 1792, and 1793: *William Purnell* (1739–1796) and *William Purnell* (?–1798). The man elected to the 1785 Assembly was described in the election returns as “Captain,” and since *William Purnell* (1739–1796) was a major in 1785, it has been assumed that the legislator was *William Purnell* (?–1798). This assumption is strengthened by a letter in 1791 recommending William Purnell “of Cropper’s Neck” for a justiceship and referring to his frequent service in the legislature. There is, however, the possibility that some of the service assigned to *William Purnell* (?–1798) may have been held by *William Purnell* (1739–1796).

PURNELL, ZADOCK (?–1805). BORN: in Worcester County. NATIVE: fourth generation. RESIDED: in Buckingham Hundred, Worcester

County. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: *John Purnell* (?–1755). MOTHER: Elizabeth Rackcliffe (?–ca. 1754). BROTHERS: *Thomas Purnell, of John* (?–1796); *William Purnell* (?–1777), a possible legislator; and Capt. John (?–ca. 1761). SISTERS: Elizabeth; Levina; Arralantar (?–1782), who married *Thomas Robins* (ca. 1702–1766); and Zipporah (Zeporah). FIRST COUSINS: *William Purnell* (1739–1796), a possible legislator; *Thomas Purnell, of Thomas* (?–1790). NEPHEWS: *John Purnell Robins* (ca. 1742–1780); *William Purnell* (?–1798). NIECES: Ann Purnell, who married first, *Henry Dennis* (?–1785), and second, *William Polk* (1752–1812); and Mary Robins (1743–1808), who married *William Purnell* (1739–1796), a possible legislator. MARRIED probably never. PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Anglican, Worcester Parish, Worcester County. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Esq., by 1745. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: probably planter. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Worcester County, 1758–1761, 1768–1770 (Public Offices 2, 3; Arms and Ammunition 1–3); 5th Convention, Worcester County, 1775. LOCAL OFFICE: Worcester Parish Vestry, Worcester County, 1755 and 1756. MILITARY SERVICE: company clerk in Worcester County militia, 1748; captain by 1767; commissioned colonel in the Sinepuxent Battalion of the Worcester County Militia, 1777, resigned in 1778 giving advanced age as reason. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY: assessed value £1,978.7.6, including 46 slaves, 1783. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: 1,759 acres in Worcester County (all through inheritance from father). SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: purchased 238 acres in 1767, deeded as a gift a tract of unknown acreage to a distant cousin in 1801, and patented 199 acres in 1804, all in Worcester County. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: in 1805; will probated in Worcester County. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, \$17,666.19 (including 25 slaves, 45 oz. plate, and \$2,158.72 cash in silver); FB, \$13,874.74. LAND: ca. 2,196 acres in Worcester County.

PURVIANCE, SAMUEL, JR. (?–1788). BORN: in Donegal, Ireland. IMMIGRATED: by 1770, possibly ca. 1767, from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with his first wife and one or more children. RESIDED: in Philadelphia ca. 1754—at least 1767; Baltimore Town, Baltimore County, by 1770–1788. By 1787, Purviance’s residence was on Commerce Street in Baltimore Town. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: Samuel Purviance, Sr. (ca.